

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please AMEND claims 1, 4, 7, 9, 11, 13, 16, 18-20, 22-25 and 29-34 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
  - a network interface configured to communicate with nodes in a cluster;
  - ~~a memory configured to store information relating to cluster management;~~
  - a configuration subsystem operationally coupled to a remote management broker,wherein the remote management broker is configured to distribute information between the nodes in the cluster; and
  - a processor configured to;
    - access the cluster from a single-point,
    - obtain information relating to at least two devices within the cluster,
    - present the information to a user,
    - determine network management operations to perform ~~to on~~ the cluster,
    - apply a configuration lock ~~that is intended~~ to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster,
    - perform the determined network management operations, and
    - determine whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network

management operations were not applied correctly, the processor is configured to roll back to a successful configuration.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to provide a command line interface that is configured to access the cluster.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to provide a graphical user interface that is configured to access the cluster.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~wherein  
the processor is further an aggregator configured to aggregate data relating to the devices within the cluster.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the remote management broker further comprises:

a secure transport configured to transport messages;

a remote management broker server operationally coupled to the secure transport;

and

a remote management broker client operationally coupled to the secure transport.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the remote management broker is further configured to collect attributes from the configuration subsystem.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, wherein the messages include a header ~~that is configured~~ to authenticate the messages.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the header includes a message authentication code that acts as a shared secret within the cluster and a magic field that identifies one or more of the messages as a remote management broker message.

9. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:  
accessing a cluster from a single-point;  
obtaining attributes relating to at least two devices within the cluster;  
presenting the attributes to a user and receiving input from a~~the~~ user relating to the attributes;  
determining network management operations to perform on the cluster based on the received input;

applying a configuration lock ~~that is intended~~ to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster;

performing the determined network management operations on the cluster; and

determining whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations were not applied correctly, rolling back to a successful configuration.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the providing of cluster management from the single-point comprises providing cluster management from a selected one of a command line interface or a graphical user interface.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
distributing information between the nodes in the cluster using a remote management broker.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the performing of the determined network management operations on the cluster further comprises distributing the network management operations to each of the devices.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
determining whether the network management operations on the cluster were performed correctly, and when the network management operations were not performed correctly, rolling back to a successful configuration.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
utilizing a header that is configured to authenticate messages.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
applying a configuration lock ~~that is intended~~ to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the devices within the cluster during a predetermined time; and

releasing the configuration lock after the network management operations are performed.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
aggregating data relating to the devices within the cluster on a single device within the cluster.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium, said computer program configured to control a processor to perform a ~~method~~process, the ~~method~~process comprising:

obtaining attributes relating to at least two devices within a cluster from a single-point;

providing the attributes to a user and receiving input relating to the attributes from the user;

determining network management operations to perform on the cluster based on the received input;

distributing the network management operations to the at least two devices within the cluster;

applying a configuration lock ~~that is intended~~ to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster;

applying the network management operations; and

determining whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations were not applied correctly, rolling back to a successful configuration.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~readable storage medium~~program of claim 18, the ~~method~~process further comprising:

applying a configuration lock ~~that is intended~~ to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the devices within the cluster during a predetermined time.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~readable storage medium~~program of claim 18, wherein the receiving of the input further comprises at least one of utilizing a command line interface or utilizing a graphical user interface.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~readable storage medium~~program of claim 18, the ~~method~~process further comprising:

providing a header ~~that is configured~~ to help in authenticating messages.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~readable storage medium~~program of claim 18, the ~~method~~process further comprising:

aggregating data relating to the devices within the cluster on a single device within the cluster.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

obtaining means for obtaining attributes relating to at least two devices within a cluster from a single-point;

providing means for providing the attributes to a user;

receiving means for receiving input relating to the attributes from the user;

determining means for determining network management operations to perform on the cluster based on the received input;

distributing means for distributing the network management operations to the devices within the cluster;

first applying means for applying a configuration lock ~~that is intended to prevent~~ other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster;

second applying means for applying the network management operations to the devices within the cluster; and

determining means for determining whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations on the cluster were not applied correctly, rolling back to a successful configuration.



25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:  
third applying means for applying a configuration lock ~~that is intended to prevent~~  
other applications from performing network management operations on the devices  
within the cluster during a predetermined time.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the message  
authentication code is calculated from contents of the message and from a shared secret  
value that is known to the devices within the cluster.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the header  
comprises a message authentication code that is calculated from contents of the message  
and from a shared secret value that is known to the devices within the cluster.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer ~~readable medium~~program of claim 22,  
wherein the header comprises a message authentication code that is calculated from  
contents of the message and from a shared secret value that is known to the devices  
within the cluster.

30. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

network interface communicating means for communicating with nodes in a cluster;

~~storing means for storing information relating to cluster management;~~

distributing means for distributing information between the nodes in the cluster;

accessing means for accessing the cluster from a single-point;

obtaining means for obtaining information relating to at least two devices within the cluster;

presenting means for presenting the information to a user;

operation determining means for determining network management operations to perform to the cluster;

applying means for applying a configuration lock ~~that is intended~~ to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster;

performing means for performing the determined network management operations; and

correction determining means for determining whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations were not applied correctly, rolling back to a successful configuration.

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:  
a network interface configured to communicate with nodes in a cluster; and  
~~a memory configured to store information relating to cluster management; and~~  
a processor configured to;  
access the cluster from a single-point,  
obtain ~~information~~attributes relating to at least two devices within the  
cluster,  
present the ~~information~~attributes to a user and receive input from the user  
relating to the attributes,  
determine network management operations to perform to the cluster,  
apply a configuration lock ~~that is intended~~ to prevent other applications  
from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the  
cluster,  
perform the determined network management operations, and  
determine whether the network management operations on the cluster,  
including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network  
management operations were not applied correctly, the processor is configured to roll  
back to a successful configuration.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 31, ~~wherein the processor is~~  
~~configured to provide~~further comprising:

a command line interface that is configured to access the cluster.

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 31, ~~wherein the processor is configured to provide~~further comprising:

a graphical user interface that is configured to access the cluster.

34. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 31, ~~further comprising: wherein the processor is further an aggregator~~ configured to aggregate data relating to the devices within the cluster.